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OLEFIN OXIDE CATALYSTS

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an improved oxidation catalyst composition containing a catalytically effective amount of silver and a rubidium promoter deposited on a carrier, which rubidium metal promoter provides a quantity of rubidium at least 5 μ mole and less than 60 μ mole per gram of catalyst composition. The catalysts of the invention are deposited on carriers such as α -alumina and silver-bonded calcium carbonate. The invention is also directed to a process for the oxidation of olefins, which process involves reacting the olefin with oxygen in the presence of a catalyst composition having a catalytically effective amount of silver and a rubidium promoter deposited on a carrier, wherein said rubidium metal promoter provides a quantity of rubidium of at least 5 μ mole and less than 60 μ mole per gram of catalyst composition.